

*[English]***Increasing the Draft of Hoogly River**

6849. SHRI SATYGOPAL MISRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state details of the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the draft of the river Hoogly (Bhagirathi) for the benefit of Calcutta and Haldia port during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): Continues dredging is done by the dredgers of Calcutta Port Trust and the Dredging Corporation of India to maintain Navigable drafts in the River Hoogly. A scheme known as Recession of Jiggerkhali Flat has been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 43.29 crores for execution during the current financial year.

**Development of National Highway in Assam**

6850. SHRI PROBIN DEKA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposals sent by the Government of Assam to the Union Government for development of National Highways during 1991-92;

(b) the number of proposals accorded approval; and

(c) the allocations made for the said proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). 57 Nos. of proposals for development of National Highways in Assam were received

during 1991-92. Out of these, 33 Nos. of proposals amounting to Rs. 19.23 crores were approved.

(c) An allocation of 0.75 crores was made during 1991-92 for these works.

**Inclusion of More Categories in Benefit to Cases of Death and Disability**

6851. PROF. SAVITHRAI LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to include more categories within the purview of the existing Government orders regarding the benefit to cases of death and disability attributable to Military Service;

(b) if so, the decision made in this regard;

(c) whether the employment assistance is extended to cover cases of death and disability due to natural causes; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). Government exit orders whereby a dependant of each Servicemen, whose death or disability is not attributable to Military service, are eligible for compassionate appointment to Group 'C' or 'D' posts in relaxation of Employment Exchange/Staff Selection Commission procedures. However, such compassionate appointment has to be provided within the Ministry of Defence only and is subject to availability of vacancies.